

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 50

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1

Memo published: March 6, 2001 Contact: Dan Schmidt, Analyst (267-7251)

Current law requires that the Technology for Educational Achievement (TEACH) Board administer the Educational Telecommunications Access Program (ETAP) which provides reduced-cost data lines or video links to specific educational agencies, including school districts. The TEACH Board also administers the Educational Technology Block Grants program which awards grants to school districts for educational technology purposes.

2001 Assembly Bill 50 requires that, as a condition to receiving a reduced-cost data line or video link under ETAP, a school district must provide Internet management software or services on all computers that are owned by the school district, connected to the Internet, and used by pupils. The bill defines Internet management software or services as software or services that are used to filter or block access to material that is harmful to children. The bill allows school districts to purchase the Internet management software or services using TEACH Educational Technology Block Grants.

In addition, the bill requires all school boards to provide Internet management software and services on all computers owned by the school board, connected to the Internet, and used by children, under the general school board duties provided under s. 120.12, Stats.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 removes the general requirement that all school boards must provide Internet management software as described above. The substitute amendment maintains the requirement that school districts provide Internet management software as a condition to receive TEACH funds for reduced-cost data lines or video links under the ETAP.

Assembly Substitute Amendment 1 was recommended by the Assembly Committee on Information Policy and Technology by a vote of 3 Ayes, 2 Noes, on March 1, 2001.

DWS:rv;tlu